

3. Remarks

Applicants acknowledge that claims 15, 16, 23-25, 29, 31, 32 and 36 are pending in the application with claims 15, 16, 29, and 31 being in independent form.

The Examiner suggested amending claims 16 and 31 to be in independent form in order to rectify the asserted 112, 2nd paragraph issue. Applicants have amended the claims as suggested by the Examiner.

Claim 30 has been canceled and replaced with claim 38, which specifies that hematopoietic stem or progenitor cells used in claims 15, 16, 29, and 31 have been enriched for the CD34+ phenotype. In addition, new claim 37 has been added to specify that the flt3-ligand used in claim 31 is human flt3-ligand.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the pending claims in light of the amendments presented above. If the Examiner believes that any issues could be resolved, or if the prosecution of the application could be expedited, by a telephone conference, Applicants invite the Examiner to telephone the undersigned at telephone number (206) 265-7145.

Respectfully submitted,



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